

# OAK HARBOR MARINA NEWSLETTER

April 1, 2008

**State Tidelands Rent reduced.** On March 25 Gov. Gregoire signed ESSB 6532 which has the effect of saving the marina more than \$50,000 per year in rent for the next ten years. The effort to change the law was led by Senator Haugen with assistance from Representatives Bailey and Smith in the House. A similar measure ten years ago passed the legislature only to be vetoed by the governor. In addition to the state officials, thanks go to Mayor Slowik, City Administrator Paul Schmidt, City executive Assistant Renee Recker, and the legislative staff persons. At one point the bill passed through a committee chaired by a representative from Des Moines. That city's marina was originally included in the bill, but the limits were changed at the insistence of the state Department of Natural Resources. The bill passed both houses of the legislature unanimously. The money saved will go into the marina's capital improvement fund and it will ultimately be used to pay for dredging and dock improvements.

**Bathroom Improvements.** The marina crew painted the men's restroom below the Harbormaster's office and put new sinks in the women's restroom in building #2.

**Dock ladders.** The crew is installing ladders along the docks to be used if somebody accidentally falls in the water.

**Office assistant.** We have selected a candidate for the customer service position. We hope to have a new person working in the office very soon.

**Operations personnel.** We hired Neil Ketchum to work two days per week with dock cleanup and fueling operations. Neil has a sailboat on E dock.

**Maui gate closure.** The Maui gate is still set for re-opening by mid-April.

**Boat hoist out of service.** The crew discovered rot in the cross brace members that support the crane. We have ordered some replacement timbers and have showed the work to several contractors. The work will

need to be performed by a crane on a barge. It will probably be mid-May before the hoist is operational again.

**Fuel prices.** We had a fuel delivery on February 7 and the prices are still: gas \$3.27 per gallon and diesel \$3.33 per gallon. (Nickel off for 100 gals)

**Baby salmon raising pen.** For the next few months the marina will be raising salmon smolts, prior to their release. If you, your children, or your grandchildren would like to feed the fish please contact the marina office. We only feed them once a day and it only takes about 10 minutes.

**Wildlife control contract.** The City council approved a contract with the US Dept. of Agriculture to help improve the health and safety at the marina.

**Sailing lessons.** Adult sailing is scheduled for six consecutive Tuesday nights beginning April 22. There are 3 separate sessions for Youth sailing: Three consecutive weekends beginning May 31, six consecutive days beginning June 23, or three weekends beginning July 12. The cost for the program will be \$75 for youth and \$125 for adults plus \$12 for the US Sailing book. For more information contact Byron Skubi at 675-8696.

Mack Funk, Harbormaster